

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-13, 15-18 and 20-21 are pending in the present application. By this reply, claims 2, 7, 14 and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 6, 13 and 18 are independent claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 5, 7-12, 14-17 and 19-20 remain objected to, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

According, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in rejecting the other claims and only to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. Particularly, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate therein allowable claim 2. Claim 6 has been amended to be in independent form with allowable claim 7 added therein. Independent claims 13 and 18 have been amended to incorporate therein allowable claims 14 and 19, respectively. Thus, independent claims 1, 6, 13 and 18 and all of their dependent claims are now allowable over the prior art of record.

35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 Rejection

Claims 1 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being by Han (U.S. Patent No. 5,809,088). Claims 6, 13 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Han.

Without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in rejecting these claims, only to expedite prosecution these claims have been amended as indicated above to include the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejections are moot and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final Action, in that it raises no new issues but merely places the claims in a form more clearly patentable over the references of record. In the alternative, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final Action in that it reduces the issues for appeal.

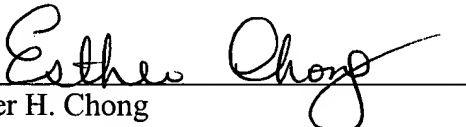
Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

Applicant(s) respectfully petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and 1.17 for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action. The Extension of Time Fee in the amount of \$120.00 attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 
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